

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An encoding section can perform moving picture compression processes by intra-coding and inter-coding.

In accordance with an instruction from a code

5 production amount control section, the encoding section divides an input VOP to MBs according to one of the moving picture compression processes by intra-coding and inter-coding, and subjects the divided MBs to encoding processing. A code production amount count

10 section counts the code amount of a produced bit stream. A quantization scale mean value calculation section accumulates the quantization scale instructed by the code production amount control section, and calculates a mean value of the quantization scale for

15 each VOP. The code production amount control section switches the encoding process to be carried out by the encoding section to the intra-coding process, on the basis of the code production amount, the mean value of the quantization scale and the frame skip number.

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